

REMARKS

The following Remarks are fully and completely responsive to the Office Action dated September 20, 2002. Claims 4-6 are pending in this application, with claims 1-3 canceled and claims 4-6 added by this Amendment. In the outstanding Office Action claims 1-2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). The cancellation of these claims renders these rejections moot. No new matter has been entered. Applicants respectfully request consideration of claims 4-6.


Each of claims 4-6 recites that the rotation of the rotor assembly is restrained until the rotor assembly is linearly moved. Applicants have carefully reviewed both Albrecht et al. (U.S. Patent Nos. 4,920,292 and 5,117,128) and Shiotsuki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,291,084). Neither reference teaches and/or suggests restraining the rotary motion of the rotor assembly until the rotor assembly has been linearly moved. Accordingly, these references, either alone or in combination, fail to teach and/or suggest the invention recited in claims 4-6. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request consideration and allowance of claims 4-6.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney by telephone if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge payment for any additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, making reference to Docket No. 023459-00043.

Respectfully submitted,



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